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COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

- On 25 April 1949 a military garrison numbering 32 was stationed at Rozvadov, allegedly as a forest working brigade. The soldiers were armed with rifles and sub-machineguns. Actually they were employed on patrol duties and did no timber work. Forestry personnel in the vicinity knew nothing about the employment of soldiers for forestry work. According to the soldiers own statements, all of them were politically reliable, and the real purpose of their being at Rozvadov was to reinforce the border formations, since the Ministry of the Interior was expecting an armed uprising against the regime
- Similar garrisons were reportedly stationed along the entire border with the American Zone of Germany. Eyewitnesses have confirmed their presence at Reichenthal and Novy Losimtal. All soldiers considered unreliable politically who were in charge of military vehicles were, wherever possible, relieved from their duty as drivers, since in a number of instances soldiers had used x military vehicles to escape across the border. However, since this precaution led to a considerable shortage of drivers, some of the unreliable drivers were still permitted to drive, but only when accompanied by reliable armed soldiers.

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.

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